

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (cancelled)

Claim 2 (currently amended): The receiving paper for thermal transfer recording according to Claim ~~± 4~~, wherein the resin emulsion comprises a resin having a glass transition point not less than 45°C.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The receiving paper for thermal transfer recording according to Claim ~~± 4~~, wherein the resin emulsion is an emulsion selected from the group consisting of polyester resin emulsions and urethane resin emulsions.

Claim 4 (currently amended): ~~The A~~ receiving paper for thermal transfer recording ~~according to Claim 1, comprising:~~

a paper substrate having opposed surfaces;

an ink receiving layer located overlying one surface of the paper substrate and configured to receive a heat-melted or heat-softened ink; and

a tackifying layer located overlying the other surface of the paper substrate,

wherein the ink receiving layer is formed by a method comprising:

providing a coating of an ink receiving layer forming liquid comprising a resin emulsion overlying the

paper substrate, the emulsion having a minimum filming temperature; and

heating the coating of ink layer forming liquid to a temperature not less than the minimum filming temperature of the resin emulsion; and

wherein the ink receiving layer further comprises a hollow particulate material having a hollow rate not less than 50%.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The receiving paper for thermal transfer recording according to Claim + 4, wherein the ink receiving layer has a surface having a smoothness not less than 500 seconds when measured by an Ohken-shiki smoothness tester.

Claim 6 (currently amended): ~~The A~~ receiving paper for thermal transfer recording according to ~~Claim 1~~, comprising:

a paper substrate having opposed surfaces;

an ink receiving layer located overlying one surface of the paper substrate and configured to receive a heat-melted or heat-softened ink; and

a tackifying layer located overlying the other surface of the paper substrate,

wherein the ink receiving layer is formed by a method comprising:

providing a coating of an ink receiving layer forming liquid comprising a resin emulsion overlying the paper substrate, the emulsion having a minimum filming temperature; and

heating the coating of ink layer forming liquid to a temperature not less than the minimum filming temperature of the resin emulsion,

said receiving paper for thermal transfer recording further comprising:

an intermediate layer comprising a resin and a curing agent thereof as main components at least at one of a location between the paper substrate and the ink receiving layer, and a location between the substrate and the tackifying layer.

Claim 7 (original): The receiving paper for thermal transfer recording according to Claim 6, wherein the resin in the intermediate layer is a resin selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl alcohols and modified polyvinyl alcohols.

Claims 8 - 14 (cancelled)

Claim 15 (new): The receiving paper for thermal transfer recording according to Claim 6, wherein the resin emulsion comprises a resin having a glass transition point not less than 45°C.

Claim 16 (new): The receiving paper for thermal transfer recording according to Claim 6, wherein the resin emulsion is an emulsion selected from the group consisting of polyester resin emulsions and urethane resin emulsions.

Claim 17 (new): The receiving paper for thermal transfer recording according to Claim 6, wherein the ink receiving layer further comprises a hollow particulate material having a hollow rate not less than 50%.

Claim 18 (new): The receiving paper for thermal transfer recording according to Claim 6, wherein the ink receiving layer has a surface having a smoothness not less than 500 seconds when measured by an Ohken-shiki smoothness tester.